

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-24. (cancelled)

25. (new) A breathable polymer casing, wherein the casing comprises thermoplastic polymer comprising polyamide blocks and polyether blocks and the casing has a moisture vapor transmission rate (MVTR) of equal or more than 500 g/m²/24 hours measured by the ASTM E96 BW method, and wherein the casing is in a tubular form and permeable to smoke.

26. (new) The breathable polymer casing according to claim 25, wherein the moisture vapor transmission rate (MVTR) is 2,000-20,000 g/m²/24 hours.

27. (new) The breathable polymer casing according to claim 25, wherein the thermoplastic polymer comprises a polymer with polyamide 12 blocks and with polyethylene glycol blocks or polypropylene glycol blocks or polytetramethylene glycol blocks or mixtures thereof.

28. (new) The breathable polymer casing according to claim 25, wherein the thermoplastic polymer comprises a polymer with polyamide 12 blocks and with polyethylene glycol blocks.

29. (new) The breathable polymer casing according to claim 25, wherein the number-average molar mass of the polyamide

sequences is between 300 and 15,000 and the number-average molar mass of the polyether sequences is between 100 and 6,000.

30. (new) The breathable polymer casing according to claim 25, wherein the number-average molar mass of the polyamide sequences is between 600 and 5,000, and the number-average molar mass of the polyether sequences is between 200 and 3,000.

31. (new) The breathable polymer casing according to claim 25, wherein the casing is oriented or unoriented and the casing comprises one or two or more layers, and the layers comprise the same polymer or different polymers.

32. (new) The breathable polymer casing according to claim 25, wherein the casing is permeable to CO₂, O₂ and other gases and impermeable to microbes.

33. (new) The breathable polymer casing according to claim 25, wherein the dry sausage is salami.

34. (new) The breathable polymer casing according to claim 25, wherein the casing is resistant to deterioration by cellulolytic enzymes and that it is curvable.

35. (new) The breathable polymer casing according to claim 25, wherein the dry sausage is salami-type sausage.

36. (new) A method for preparing a dry sausage, comprising extending meat mass into a casing, wherein the casing comprises thermoplastic polymer comprising polyamide blocks and polyether blocks and the casing has a moisture vapor transmission

rate (MVTR) of equal or more than 500 g/m²/24 hours measured by the ASTM E96 BW method.

37. (new) The method according to claim 36, wherein the moisture vapor transmission rate (MVTR) is 2,000-20,000 g/m²/24 hours.

38. (new) The method according to claim 36, wherein the thermoplastic polymer comprises a polymer with polyamide 12 blocks and with polyethylene glycol blocks or polypropylene glycol blocks or polytetramethylene glycol blocks or mixtures thereof.

39. (new) The method according to claim 36, wherein the thermoplastic polymer comprises a polymer with polyamide 12 blocks and with polyethylene glycol blocks.

40. (new) The method according to claim 36, wherein the number-average molar mass of the polyamide sequences is between 300 and 15,000 and the number-average molar mass of the polyether sequences is between 100 and 6,000.

41. (new) The method according to claim 36, wherein the number-average molar mass of the polyamide sequences is between 600 and 5,000, and the number-average molar mass of the polyether sequences is between 200 and 3,000.

42. (new) The method according to claim 36, wherein the casing is oriented or unoriented and the casing comprises one or two or more layers, and the layers comprise the same polymer or different polymers.

43. (new) The method according to claim 36, wherein the casing is permeable to CO₂, O₂ and other gases and impermeable to microbes.

44. (new) The method according to claim 36, wherein the casing is permeable to smoke.